LECTOTYPIFICATION OF *CAMELLIA LUTESCENS* DYER (THEACEAE)

In 1874, Sir William Thiselton Dyer described a new species of the genus *Camellia* based on observations he had made on Griffith's collections from Laim-planj-thaya, Mishmi hills, Arunachal Pradesh. This new *Camellia, C. lutescens* differs from *C. drupifera* Lour. in having very short styles and recurved stigmas. Dyer (*l.c.*) did not designate the holotype for the new species, *C. lutescens*. In the protologue Dyer (in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 1 : 293. 1874) mentioned the locality of this species as Mishmi hills (Laim-planj-thaya) with collection numbers *Griffith* 777 and 779. Since no holotype is designated it is necessary to designate lectotype from the syntypes mentioned in the protologue.

In the Syntype available in (K), (Photo CAL !) (*Griffith* 779) Dyer has written that Kurz finds no difference of this species from *C. lanceolata*. ["Kurz in lit (June 74) remarks" "Griff. 779 is hardly diff. from *Calpandria lanceolata* Bl."]. But according to Dyer "It appears to me quite distinct". Unfortunately the duplicate of this sheet (*Griffith* 779, CAL) is having no such remark of the author nor he mentioned the locality of collection etc. However in the other specimen *Griffith* 777 (K) there is a detailed writing of the locality and the date of collection. Moreover Dyer has written the remark of Kurz as well as his in it as follows ; "Kurz remarks in lit (June 74) that this number "in H.B.C. is *C. drupifera*". The styles appear to me afford a distinctive character."

Hence the duplicate of specimen *Griffith* 779 has been critically studied and worked by Dyer himself and it corresponds with the protologue of *C. lutescens* Dyer. On the basis of the study, the authors has chosen *Griffith* 779 (K) as the lectotype of the species *Camellia lutescens* Dyer.

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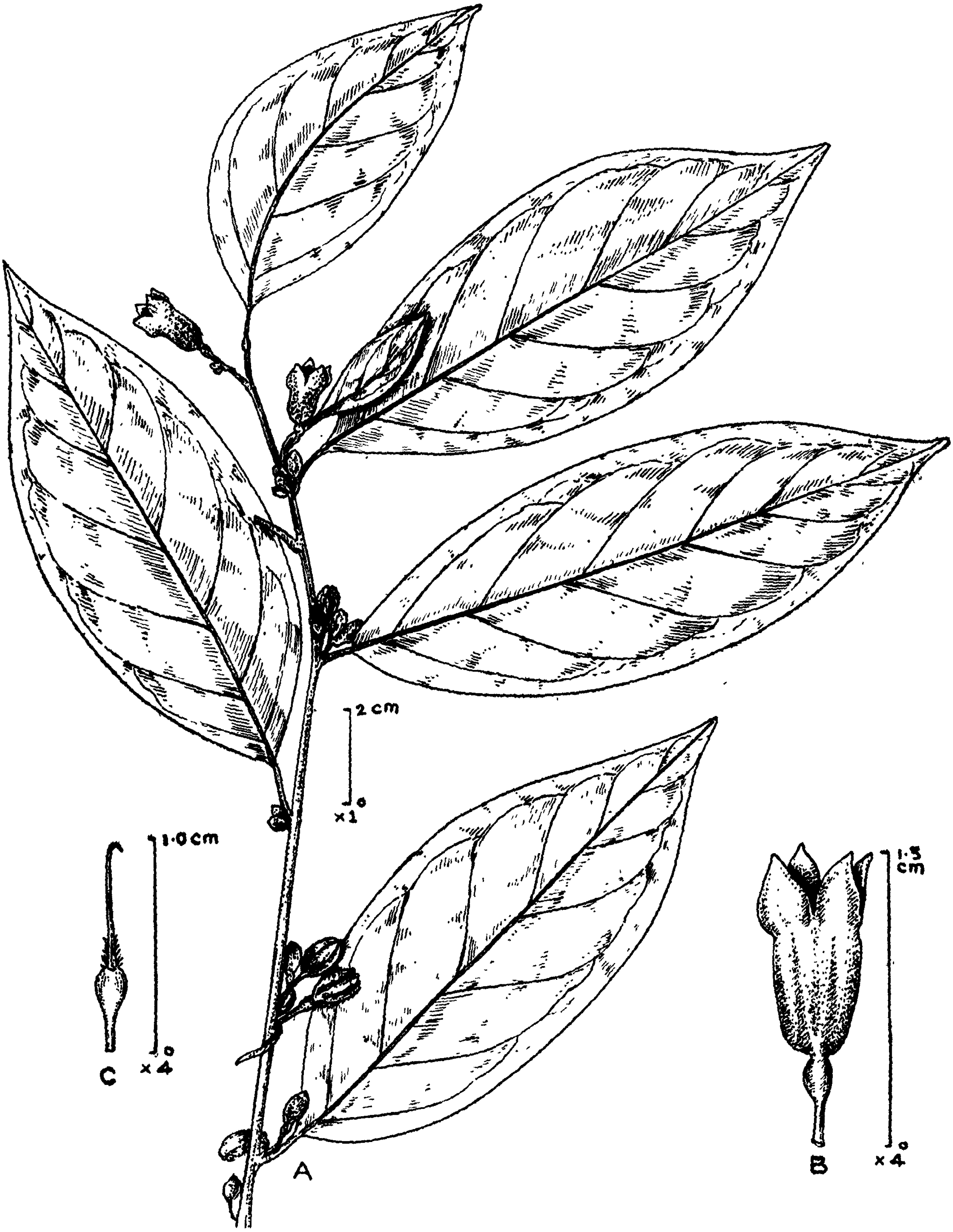
ELAEAGNUS LOUREIRII CHAMPION — A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

While a critical examination of the materials of Elaeagnaceae for a revisionary study, the author came across 2 sheets collected by Dr. N. L. Bor (101) from Manipur and G. Panigrahi (482) from Cherrapunji. After a thorough study with literature, it was identified as *Elaeagnus loureirii* Champion, a species so far known only from Hong Kong & China. The species is the most distinct of the whole genus in the shape and size of flowers and it is a new record for India.

Detailed description alongwith an illustration is provided to facilitate its easy identification.

Elaeagnus loureirii Champion in Hook. J. Bot. 5 : 196. 1853 ; DC. Prodr. 14 : 613, 1857 ; Benth., Fl. Hong Kong. 298. 1861 ; Servettaz in Beihe. Bot. Centralbl. 25(2) : 67. t. 26 f. 3 no. 12-13. 1909. *L. latifolia* Lour. Fl. Cochinch. 1 : 89. 1795. non. Linn.

Evergreen shrub, unarmed. Branches thickly covered with thick, brown scales. Leaves 5-12 x 2-4 cm, ovate or ovate-oblong, obtuse or acute, glabrous with scurfy scales below ; petioles 1-2 cm long. Inflorescence a short raceme often reduced to a fascicle of three or four flowers or a



Elaeagnus loureirii Champion
Figs. A-C : A. Flowing twig. B. Flower. C. Carpel.

single flower. Flowers campanulate with rusty scales, deciduous ; perianth tube 1-1.5 cm long ; perianth lobes 4, 0.5 cm long. Stames 4 ; filaments 6 mm long ; anthers ellipsoid. Ovary partly covered by the perianth tube, 4 mm long ; styles 10 mm, flexuous, hairy at the base ; stigma slightly hooked. Disc scarcely projected, pubescent, pedicels 5 mm long elongating in fruit. Fruits not seen.

Type : Described from Hongkong.

Fls. : Dec.-Feb. *Frts.* : Mar.-May.

Distribution : INDIA : Meghalaya, Manipur ; CHINA, HONGKONG.

Specimens cited : India : Manipur, Charoi, 1500 m, 8.1.1946, *N. L. Bor* 101 (DD) ; Meghalaya, Cherapunji 1380 m. 10.12.1956, *G. Panigrahi* 4829 (CAL).

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STATUS OF *OLAX WIGHTIANA* WALL. EX WIGHT & ARN.

Wight & Arn. (1834) validated *O. wightiana* Wall. based on Wallich Num. List no. 6779 (1832, *nom. nud.*), collected from Peninsular India. Examination of herbarium specimens reveal that this species is endemic to the Western Ghats in Anamalai and Tinnevelly hills. This endemic species was later on recorded by many floristic and taxonomic workers like Beddome (1859), Dalz. & Geibs. (1861), Masters (1875), Talbot (1894), Woodr. (1897), Cooke (1902), Brandis (1906), Gamble (1915) etc. in different floras or journal. Sleumer (1980) however, merged *O. wightiana* with *O. imbricata* Roxb.—a species described by Roxburgh (1820) based on his own collection from Chittagong, erstwhile East Bengal (now Bangladesh). In India further collection of *O. imbricata* Roxb. was made only from Andaman-Nicobar Islands and not so far from the mainland of India. The distribution of *O. imbricata* Roxb., as per literature and herbarium specimens show, this species occur in Indochina, Thailand, S. W. China, Taiwan, Malesia to New Guinea and Solomon Islands, besides India and Bangladesh.

The present critical study of the two species referred to above reveals that they are quite distinct and can be safely distinguished by a number of characters. Considering this, the present authors do not agree with Sleumer (1980) in merging *O. wightiana* with *O. imbricata* and as such propose to maintain them as two distinct species.

A comparative study of the two taxa in respect of their taxonomic characters is given below for easy identification.

Olax imbricata Roxb.	*Olax wightiana* Wall. ex Wight et Arn.
1. Inflorescence hardly exceeding the length of the subtending petioles, ca. 1 cm long.	1. Inflorescence always longer than the petioles, 3-6 cm long.
2. Flowers densely compact.	2. Flowrers more or less in lax panicle.
3. Rachis brownish verrucose or sparsely tomentose.	3. Rachis densely brownish tomentose.
4. Bracts broadly ovate, never more than 0.5 mm in length, sparsely tomentose dorsally when young, afterwards become glabrescent.	4. Bracts oblong, 2.5 mm long, dorsal surfaces densely brownish tomentose.
5. Pedicels short, 2.0-2.5 mm long, glabrous.	5. Pedicels upto 7 mm long, tomentose.
6. Calyx only ciliated at margin dorsally glabrous.	6. Calyx ciliated at margin and densely brownish tomentose dorsally.
7. Petals glabrous dorsally	7. Petals sparsely to densely brownish tomentose dorsally.
8. Fruits ovoid or globose, 8-10 mm across.	8. Fruits oblong or oval 10-18×9-10 mm.